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## ***Transportation Update***

***July/August 2001***

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### **CMA Approves 25-Year Countywide Transportation Plan**

At its August 2, 2001 meeting, the CMA approved its 25-year 2001 Countywide Transportation Plan. The long-range plan sets transportation priorities for Alameda County.

The Plan includes projects totaling approximately \$4.6 billion. Of this, projects totaling nearly \$2.8 billion will be implemented using known sources of funds such as gas tax revenues, Alameda County's new transportation sales tax, and local funds. The remaining projects will only be implemented if new sources of revenue materialize, such as a regional gas tax or increased bridge tolls.

Of the \$930 million in discretionary federal and state gas tax funds under the control of the CMA, over \$530 million is dedicated to transit projects and just under \$200 million is reserved for road projects. Bicycle, pedestrian, system management and other types of projects total the remaining roughly \$200 million.

Copies of the Plan are available at the CMA offices and at local libraries.

### **CMA Releases 2001 Congestion Management Program for Review**

At the August meeting, the CMA released the draft 2001 Congestion Management Program for public review. The CMP is a 5-year plan for implementing the near-term projects in the Countywide Transportation Plan and for taking other steps to manage the transportation system. The 2001 CMP will include Alameda County's proposed

projects for the upcoming 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program. Adoption of the CMP is tentatively scheduled for September 27, 2001. Copies of the draft CMP are available at the CMA offices.

### **CMA Adopts Draft List of Projects for State and Local Funding**

The CMA is considering projects for two programs – funds generated by the CMA's exchange program and the 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program. Projects totaling 4 times the available funding were submitted. In June, initial screening cut this list to roughly twice available funding. At its August meeting, the CMA approved a draft list of projects for funding in the two programs. This draft list will be forwarded to MTC. CMA staff will be working with project sponsors during August and September to refine the staff recommendation. Final action by the CMA Board is scheduled for September 27, 2001.

### **Legislature Places Transportation Funding Measure on March Ballot**

As part of the State Budget, the Legislature placed a transportation funding measure on the March 2002 ballot. This measure would extend indefinitely the transfer of State sales tax funds to public transit, the State Transportation Improvement Program, and local street and road maintenance and rehabilitation. MTC estimates this measure would generate an additional \$6.3 billion in the Bay Region for these programs over the next 25 years.

### **CMA Board Discusses Funding for Altamont Commuter Express**

The Alameda County CMA has secured funding for ACE operations through October 2001, and the voters of Alameda County have approved a transportation sales tax measure that will provide operating funding for ACE starting in summer 2002, leaving an 8-month gap between these two revenue sources. The CMA is considering ways to provide approximately \$1.4 to 1.5 million during this gap. Regional or State funding, budget savings such as a delay in the 4th train, a fare surcharge at Alameda County stations and an advance of funds from Alameda County's new sales tax measure are among the options for dealing with Alameda County's obligation to ACE during 2001-02. The CMA discussed these options at its August meeting. A recommended strategy will be presented in September.

### Deadlines to Note

#### 2002 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) & 2001 CMA Transportation Improvement Program

Approximately \$123 million is available for programming to projects in 2001.

*Final Funding Program      September 27, 2001*

Federal Funding Programs – Delivery Deadlines  
Projects programmed with Cycle I TEA-21 funds must have obligated these funds by September 30, 2001. Failure to comply with this deadline could result in the loss of funds programmed to the project. Sponsors with projects that may have problems with this deadline should contact CMA staff immediately.

### Legislation

AB 608 (Dickerson) This bill would permit the California Transportation Commission to adjust the cost counted against a "County Share" if the actual cost is less than 80% of the engineer's estimate. The CMA supports this bill if it is amended to make the adjustment mandatory.

AB 1335 (Cohn) This bill would authorize a sponsor of a Traffic Congestion Relief Program project included in an adopted Regional Transportation Plan to advance its own funds and be reimbursed from the TCRP, subject to CTC approval. The CMA supports AB 1335.

AB 1636 (Briggs); ABx2 58 (Runner); SB 835 (Battin); and SB 1064 (Polanco) These bills would exempt all or a part of the price of diesel and/or gasoline from the sales tax. These exemptions would directly reduce funding for transportation in the State Highway Account and the Traffic Congestion Relief Program. The CMA opposes these bills.

### Upcoming Meetings

August	2	CMA Board Meeting
	3	Altamont Commuter Express Board Retreat
	20	Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Board
	22/23	CTC (Sacramento)
September	4	CMA Technical Advisory Committee
	10	CMA Administration & Legislation Committee
	10	CMA Plans & Programs Committee
	17	Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Board
	17	I-880 Corridor Steering Committee
	tbd	San Pablo Ave Policy Committee
	21	I-580 Corridor Policy Advisory Committee
	tbd	I-680 Corridor Policy Advisory Committee

Published by:

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